The Story of Hazrat Yasir bin Amir (RA)

Early Life and Migration to Makkah

Hazrat Yasir bin Amir (RA) was among the early companions of Prophet Muhammad ﷺ and one of the earliest converts to Islam, thus included in the group known as *As-Sabiqun Al-Awwalun*—the first Muslims.

According to *Ibn Sa'd* in *Tabaqat al-Kubra*, Yasir (RA) was not a native of Makkah. He originally came from Yemen in search of his lost brother. He traveled with two of his brothers, Malik and Harith, but they were unable to locate the missing sibling. Disheartened, Malik and Harith returned to Yemen. Yasir (RA), however, chose to remain in Makkah, having found a sense of peace and comfort in the city.

As a foreigner, Yasir (RA) had to align himself with a powerful tribe for protection, as was customary in Makkah at the time. He pledged allegiance to **Abu Hudhaifah**, the chief of the **Banu Makhzum** tribe, thus securing his stay in the city.

Marriage to Hazrat Sumayyah bint Khayyat (RA)

Abu Hudhaifah was not only Yasir's (RA) tribal protector but also the owner of **Hazrat Sumayyah bint Khayyat (RA)**, a slave woman. Recognizing Yasir's character, he introduced him to Sumayyah and facilitated their marriage. After their union, Abu Hudhaifah granted them freedom and continued to support them financially. They had a son named **Ammar ibn Yasir (RA)** and lived peacefully as a small family.

Embracing Islam

The family of Yasir (RA) accepted Islam in the early years of the Prophethood. According to *Ibn al-Kathir* in *Al-Kamil fi al-Tarikh*, they converted in the **fifth year of Prophethood**. *Ibn Hajar al-Asqalani* in *Al-Isabah fi Tamyiz al-Sahabah* mentions that **Ammar (RA)** and **Sumayyah (RA)** were among the first seven to embrace Islam—Ammar being the sixth, and Sumayyah the seventh. Hazrat Yasir (RA) likely accepted Islam shortly thereafter and was among the early converts, though not as early as the rest of his family.

Persecution by the Quraish

As the message of Islam began to spread, it provoked hostility among the Quraish. They targeted new Muslims, especially those with no tribal backing or social status. Wealthy or influential Muslims were threatened, while the poor, slaves, and outsiders were subjected to brutal torture.

Hazrat Yasir (RA), his wife Sumayyah (RA), and their son Ammar (RA) had no tribal power to shield them. They became prime targets for relentless persecution by the Quraish, particularly by **Abu Jahl**, a notorious enemy of Islam. They were often dragged into the scorching desert, beaten, tied, and tortured. Their captors repeatedly demanded that they renounce Islam in exchange for relief—but they refused, holding firmly to their faith.

Consolation from the Prophet ﷺ

One day, Prophet Muhammad ﷺ passed by as the Yasir family was being tortured. Deeply grieved but unable to intervene due to his own vulnerable position in Makkah at the time, the Prophet ﷺ offered them words of divine hope and reassurance:

"Be patient, O family of Yasir! For your final destination is Paradise."

Martyrdom of Hazrat Sumayyah (RA) and Hazrat Yasir (RA)

As the torture intensified, Abu Jahl's brutality reached a horrific peak. He harassed and abused the family, attempting to break their spirit and force them to renounce Islam.

When Sumayyah (RA) defiantly refused, Abu Jahl became enraged and **stabbed her with a spear**, killing her. **She thus became the first martyr (Shaheeda) in Islam**. Soon after, Hazrat Yasir (RA), already weak from continuous torture, was also tortured to death, becoming **the second martyr in Islam**.

Their son, **Ammar (RA)**, survived and continued to serve Islam faithfully for many years afterward.

Legacy and Lessons

Hazrat Yasir bin Amir (RA) and Hazrat Sumayyah bint Khayyat (RA) remain among the most revered figures in Islamic history. Their sacrifices—made solely out of love for Allah ﷻ and devotion to Prophet Muhammad ﷺ—stand as eternal examples of **faith, endurance, and courage** in the face of unimaginable suffering.

May Allah ﷻ grant them the highest place in Jannah, and may we draw inspiration from their strength and sincerity. Ameen